

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089742

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO: 102ND EXECUTIVE BOARD STRATEGY PAPER

1. FORTHCOMING EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL BE FIRST MAJOR UNESCO MEETING SINCE NAIROBI CONFERENCE AND SINCE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DECIDED (PURSUANT TO CASE/BINGHAM AMENDMENT) TO SEEK RESTORATION OF FULL FUNDING FOR UNESCO.

2. IN DEPT'S VIEW, THE PRIMARY IMPORTANCE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING RESTS NOT ON THE DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS, BUT ON THE OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED TO PROJECT--TO OTHER MEMBERS OF BOARD AND TO SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS-- ACCURATE IMPRESSION OF AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD UNESCO. STATED BRIEFLY, THAT ATTITUDE COMBINES DETERMINATION TO PLAY A FULL AND ACTIVE ROLE IN
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UNESCO WITH CONCERN WHETHER SUCH A ROLE CAN CONTINUE OVER THE LONG RUN UNLESS THERE IS FURTHER PROGRESS ALONG LINES OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AT NAIROBI.

3. OUR DETERMINATION HAS BEEN SHOWN IN OUR FIRM DECISION TO SEEK THE RESTORATION OF FULL U. S. FUNDING. THERE HAVE BEEN GOOD, THOUGH NOT PERFECT, REACTIONS FROM CONGRESS TO

OUR VERY HARD EFFORTS TO JUSTIFY--LARGELY BY POINTING TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NAIROBI--OUR DECISION TO REQUEST FULL FUNDING. WE FULLY EXPECT THE CONGRESS TO TAKE IN THE NEAR FUTURE THE FINAL STEP (SENATE APPROVAL OF NECESSARY AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION FOR FY 1977 SUPPLEMENTAL) WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO PAY IN FULL ALL OVERDUE OBLIGATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR 1975 AND 1976; THERE IS GOOD REASON TO HOPE, MOREOVER, THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR SIGNIFICANT PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS DUE IN 1977 WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY CONGRESS LATER THIS YEAR.

4. AS WE PLAY A FULL AND ACTIVE ROLE WE INTEND:

-- TO INSIST UPON AN ADEQUATE AND FAIR SHARE OF AMERICAN NATIONALS IN THE SECRETARIAT, INCLUDING THE TOP LEVELS OF THE SECRETARIAT. THE PRESENT SITUATION--766 PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION, ONLY 93 OCCUPIED BY AMERICANS -- IS NOT ONLY UNFAIR BUT SERVES TO ERODE AMERICAN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR UNESCO.

-- TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE DANGERS OF EROSION OF PUBLIC SUPPORT IN AMERICA AND AMONG OTHER MAJOR DONORS OF BUDGETARY GROWTH WHICH IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY VIGOROUS MEASURES TO ENSURE THE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS FROM THE ORGANIZATION'S FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCES. TO THIS END, WE WILL PUSH VIGOROUSLY FOR UNESCO'S FULL COOPERATION WITH THE RENEWED AND EXPANDED JIU AND, IN ADDITION, IMPRESS UPON MEMBERS OF THE GENEVA GROUP THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING AHEAD RAPIDLY TO CARRY OUT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

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THE DECISION OF THE RECENT CONSULTATIVE LEVEL MEETING.

5. THE SECOND AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD UNESCO IS AN UNDERLYING ANXIETY--BASED ON VIEWS HELD NOT ONLY IN THE CONGRESS BUT ALSO AMONG AMERICAN ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL CIRCLES-- THAT A FULL AND ACTIVE U.S. ROLE IN UNESCO CAN CONTINUE OVER THE LONG RUN ONLY IF THERE ARE FURTHER STEPS TO MAINTAIN AND ACCELERATE THE MOMENTUM DEVELOPED AT NAIROBI. SPECIFICALLY:

-- IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS IN FOCUSING MEMBERS' ATTENTION TO CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM ISSUES AND AWAY FROM DIVISIVE POLITICAL MATTERS BY CONTINUING SOME MACHINERY WHICH WILL SERVE THE SAME PURPOSE AS THE DRAFTING AND NEGOTIATION GROUP AT THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE;

-- WHILE RECOGNIZING THE NAIROBI CONFERENCE ACTIONS

RELATING TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND JERUSALEM CANNOT BE REVERSED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE BOARD DO NOTHING TO CONFIRM THOSE ACTIONS OR INITIATE

ANY NEW ACTIONS OF A SIMILAR NATURE;

-- IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT THE MEMBERSHIP BEGIN TO CONSIDER STEPS WHICH WILL ELIMINATE OR DRASTICALLY REDUCE THE TYPE OF DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS TOTALLY IGNORING DUE PROCESS TAKEN AGAINST ISRAEL IN THE PAST--ACTIONS WHICH INVOLVED CONDEMNATION WITHOUT INVESTIGATION (IN THE CASE OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES) AND RESORT TO MEASURES BEYOND THE ORGANIZATION'S MANDATE, SUCH AS SANCTIONS (IN THE CASE OF JERUSALEM).

-- TO THIS END, WE WILL ATTEMPT TO MUSTER SUPPORT FOR OUR INITIATIVE TO GET UNESCO TO ADOPT DUE PROCESS INVESTIGATION--
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TIVE MACHINERY FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS LODGED BY ONE MEMBER STATE AGAINST ANOTHER. (WE MAY RAISE THIS ISSUE UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5.6.2 OR UNDER SOME OTHER ITEM IF IT APPEARS TACTICALLY MORE ADVANTAGEOUS.) OUR MAIN EFFORT ON THIS ISSUE, HOWEVER, WILL BE IN THE CORRIDORS.

-- IT IS, FINALLY, IMPORTANT TO AVOID ANY FURTHER ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WHICH WOULD REPEAT, CONFIRM OR EXPAND UPON ACTION TAKEN AT THE 101ST BOARD WITH REGARD TO WFEO ATTENDANCE AT THE TIBLISI CONFERENCE, I.E. REQUIRING AN NGO TO SEVER RELATIONS WITH ITS AFFILIATES FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

6. IN SUMMARY, THE DEPT CONSIDERS IT IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE--STRESSING AREAS WHERE USG BELIEVES FURTHER CHANGES OR REFORMS ARE ESSENTIAL AND PROJECTING AN IMAGE OF CONFIDENCE AND DETERMINATION, FREE OF ALL DIFFIDENCE OR NOTE OF 'APOLOGY' THAT CONGRESS HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO ACT ON THE FULL FUNDING REQUEST.

7. WOULD WELCOME PERMDEL'S COMMENTS, PARTICULARLY ADDITIONAL POINTS WHICH WOULD BE STRESSED BY MEMBERS OF DELEGATION TO 102ND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING.
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